

MARVEL
COMICS

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guest-
starring
VENOM!

DAREDEVIL[®]

"Fall from Grace"
chapter 4



APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

McDANIEL/GARRAHY

THE DARK PAST.

A HONG KONG ARENA, SOAKED IN MYSTERY AND BLOOD.

I'VE--
I'VE COME
TO ASK--

YOU'VE
COME HALFWAY
AROUND THE WORLD
TO *HIDE* AMONG
THE *SNAKEROOT*,
HARRY "TNT"
KENKOY.

HIDE FROM
YOUR SHAME
AND FAILURE.

I HAVE
SECRETS TO
SHARE.

NO! I'M-- I'M
NO FAILURE, LORD DAITO.
I'M-- I'M STILL A
GENERAL-- UNITED
STATES MARINE--

YOU WERE
A GENERAL,
KENKOY.

YOUR
COURT
MARTIAL IS
NO SECRET.

STRIPPED
OF RANK.

SHRIIT

BEATEN
DOWN FOR ACTS
OF CONSPIRACY
AND MURDER.

FWUKA FWUKA FWUKA

WHAT
HAVE YOU
LEFT TO
LIVE FOR?

THE KUSARIGAMA
STRIKES ITS BLOW
SWIFT AND DEEP.



CONSIDER
IT A **MERCY**
KILLING.

NO!



I DIDN'T
COME ALL
THIS WAY
TO **DIE!**

Kraak



WHAT **SCARES**
YOU, LITTLE
SOLDIER-BOY?
FALLING **PREY**
TO YOUR
WEAKNESS...OR
BEING STRONG
ENOUGH TO
PLAY THE
PREDATOR?

I--I
DON'T
WANT
TO--

P-PLEASE...
NO...



HE'S A **SPRY** ONE,
THIS HAROLD!
I **LIKE** HIM!

YOUR **AFFECTIONS**
ARE ALWAYS SO...
DISTURBED...
TEKAGI!

TEKAGI, BISENTO-- BOTH
OF YOU **QUIET!** WE MUST
RESERVE ALL **JUDGMENT**
UNTIL IT IS CLEAR... DOES
HUMANITY WIN OUT?



OR IS THE **MAN**
INHUMAN
ENOUGH TO BE
SNAKEROOT?

PLEASE--



OH, THAT
WAS VERY **LIVELY...**
I REALLY
ENJOYED THAT!

I HAVE--A GIFT...
INFORMATION, A
GOVERNMENT PROJECT
CALLED "ABOLIT FACE!"
ITS **POWER** IS
UNIMAGINABLE--
IT CAN--

YOU HAVE DIED,
HARRY KENKOY, AND
BEEN **REBORN** INTO
THE **SNAKEROOT**
OF THE HAND...
WELCOME!

NOT NOW,
MY BUDO--
MY "MILITARY
WAY!"

THERE IS ALL
THE TIME WE
NEED TO **EXPLOIT**
THE **WORLD**
AROUND.
OUR **PLANS**
ARE NOT JUST
FOR TODAY...

...BUT THE
FUTURE...

THE EVER-DARKENING
PRESENT DAY OF
MANHATTAN ISLAND.

27 BLOCKS WEST,
7 MINUTES BACK,
THE HAND'S NINJA
DESCENDED ON
THE SPEEDING ENGINE
AND SLAUGHTERED
ITS COMPANY
OF FIREFIGHTERS.

A CYBORG CALLED SIEGE
AND THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR
NAMED DAREDEVIL ARE
ABOUT TO EVEN THE SCORE.

YOUR NEW
FRIENDS CAN'T
SAVE YOU,
BISENTO!

The eternal man in the street says the street's
no place for anyone anymore.

editorial, New York Times
December 29, 1980

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

fall from grace part 4

CONFLICT

COLLAZO & RANKIN
INKERS

BY D.G. CHICHESTER AND SCOTT MCDANIEL
JANICE CHIANG • MAX SCHEELE • RALPH MACCHIO • TOM DE FALCO

LETTERER

COLORIST

EDITOR

EDITOR IN CHIEF

A COMPUTER PROGRAM
INSIDE THE METAL AND
FLESH "THINKS" IT MIGHT BE
A SOLDIER NAMED
JOHN KELLY.

AND SECRETLY HOPES
IT'S NOT JUST A DESPERATE
COLLECTION OF BITS AND
BYTES GONE LOONY.

SIEGE HAS BEEN SENT
BY THE ESPIONAGE
AGENCY S.H.I.E.L.D. TO
TRACK A STOLEN
CYBORG WRECKAGE
NAMED
JOHN GARRET --

--AND HAS BECOME
ENTANGLED IN
DAREDEVIL'S HUNT
FOR A VIRAL
TREASURE KNOWN
AS "ABOUT FACE."

ALL RIGHT,
PAL -- WHERE'S
THE FIRE?

HEH-HEH-HEH --
ALWAYS
WANTED TO
SAY THAT.

SLKRAAM

GENE - SPLICED TO
THE BRAIN TISSUE OF
MURDERED TELEPATH,
THERESA BELLWEATHER,
THE VIRUS WOULD
RESPOND TO THOUGHT --

--AND CARRY OUT COMMANDS
FROM THE INSIDE-OUT.
CELLULAR CHANGES
PHYSICALLY REMAKING
THE "INFECTED" --

--BRINGING FORTH
MIRACLES...
OR NIGHTMARES.

THERE IS
BUT ONE REWARD
FOR BETRAYING
THE SNAKEROOT!

SKREEEE

LOOK
WHAT YOU
WIN FOR
STAYING
LOYAL.

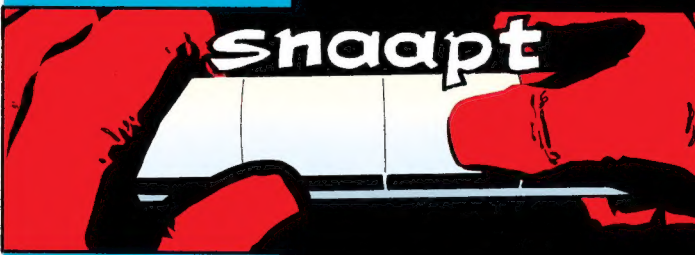
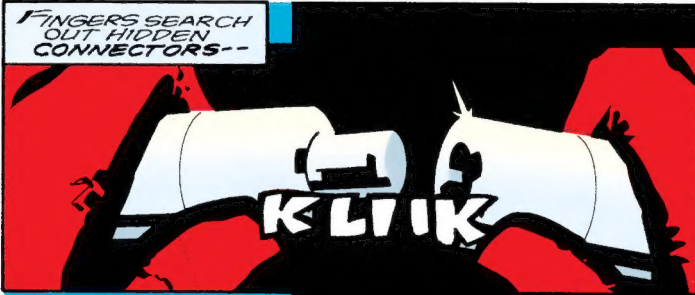
THE TRAITOR'S
TIME TO DIE IS
NOW, DAREDEVIL...
AND YOURS IS
LONG OVERDUE!

A CHILDHOOD ACT
OF HEROISM HELPED
SET THE COURSE FOR
MATT MURDOCK'S
LIFE --

-- TAKING THE BOY'S
SIGHT, BUT
ENHANCING HIS
REMAINING SENSES --

--AND PROVIDING
A CRUDE INTERNAL
RADAR TO HELP MAP
THE BLACKNESS
ALL AROUND.

FINGERS SEARCH
OUT HIDDEN
CONNECTORS--



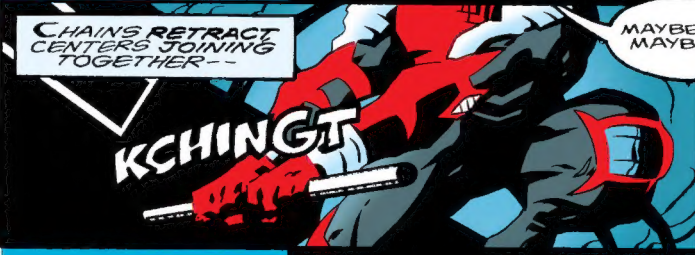
I'M SORRY...
DID YOU SAY
SOMETHING?

THE SNAKEROOT
HOLDS BOTH
EDDIE PASSIM AND
THE SECRETS HE
KNOWS OF.
"ABOUT FACE"...

...PROTECTING
BISENTO CAN
DO NOTHING TO
CHANGE THAT
"HERO"!



CHAINS RETRACT
CENTERS JOINING
TOGETHER--

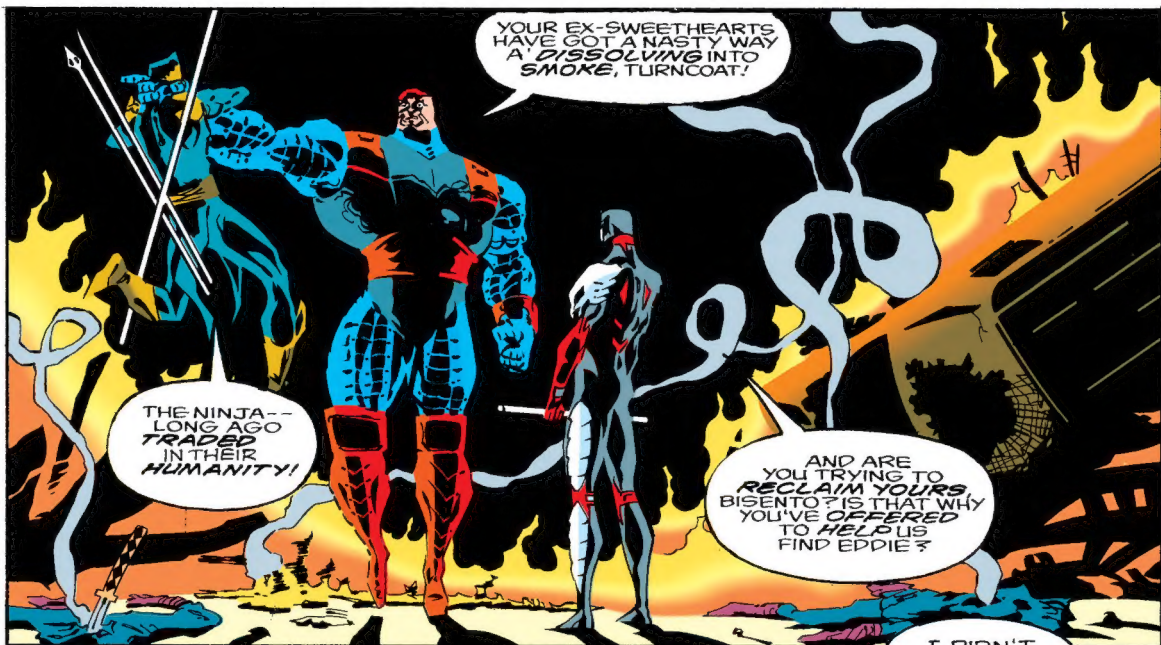


MAYBE YES,
MAYBE NO.

-- COLLAPSIBLE
SECTIONS
EXTENDING OUT.



EITHER WAY,
IT SURE
FEELS GOOD!



YOUR EX-SWEETHEARTS
HAVE GOT A NASTY WAY
A' DISSOLVING INTO
SMOKE, TURNCOAT!

THE NINJA--
LONG AGO
TRADED
IN THEIR
HUMANITY!!

AND ARE
YOU TRYING TO
RECLAIM YOURS,
BISENTO? IS THAT WHY
YOU'VE OFFERED
TO HELP US
FIND EDDIE?

I DIDN'T
REALIZE YOU
WERE SUCH A
STYLISH
MYTHOLOGY
SIEGE.

DATA BANKS
KICK IN WITH ALL
SORTA B.S., HORNHEAD,
I GOT NO CONTROL...
NEXT TIME IT'LL BE
LYRICS TO
"LOUIE, LOUIE!"

YOUR HONOR
IS SPOKEN OF--
DAREDEVIL--
EVEN WITHIN
THE SNAKE ROOT!
I KNEW--YOU
WOULD TREAT
ME FAIR--



THE SNAKE ROOT'S
EVIL IS
SEDUCTIVE... BUT
THEIR LATEST
PERVERSION--
LEAVES ME COLD!
HUNTING
THE VIRUS--

--FOR ITS POWER
TO TRANSFORM!
FUSING--STOLEN
LIFE ESSENCE--
TO THEIR NEW
WARRIOR--
THE CORPSE
ERYNYS!

ERYNYS...
LIKE THE GREEK
SPIRIT OF ANGER?
SOUNDS LIKE
A REAL BABE...
FOR A STIFF!



THE ATTACK IS SWIFT,
ALMOST BRUTAL--

PLEASE--
NO!

--AND HARD IN
REACTION TO THE ECHO
OF UNEARTHLY TENDRILS
SNAKING DOWN
FROM ABOVE.



THAT'S NOT NICE--
WE WEREN'T
AIMING FOR YOU!

GET BISENTO
OUT OF HERE,
SIEGE-- NOW!



WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE HIM!

THEY ARE VENOM.

ONE IS EDDIE BROCK, BITTER AND OUT OF STEP WITH SOCIETY.

THE OTHER IS A SYMBIOTIC ALIEN, FILLED WITH RESENTMENT AND FROM OUT OF THIS WORLD.

UNITED IN HATRED FOR THE FRIENDLY, NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN, THEY MAKE FOR A PARTICULARLY SPITEFUL FORM OF VIGILANTE--

--A SELF-PROCLAIMED AND SELF-CONGRATULATING LETHAL PROTECTOR.

LET'S GO, CHOP-SOCKEY!


WE ARE NOT AMUSED!

BISENTO IS OURS-- GET USED TO THE IDEA!

HE CAN LEAD US TO THAT UNBALANCED DERELICT PASSIM, AND PASSIM'S THE KEY TO FINDING THE "ABOUT FACE" PROTOTYPE!

THE VIRUS BELONGS TO US! IT'S GOING TO WORK ON OUR AVATDAY-- IMPROVE US EVEN MORE, IF YOU CAN IMAGINE THAT!--

--ELIMINATE OUR... "SENSITIVITY"... TO FIRE AND SOUND--



-- AND LEAVE US *DWARFING* THAT BUG *SPIDER-MAN* WITHOUT QUESTION!

MUST BE NICE HAVIN' SUCH AN ACTIVE *FANTASY* LIFE.

BET YOU HAD AN *IMAGINARY* FRIEND WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE -- A SLIMY BLACK E.T. WITH *DENTAL* PROBLEMS, MAYBE?

ME, I JUST PLAYED WITH *TOY* SOLDIERS.

AND NOW THAT I'M ALL GROWN UP, MY *WAR GAMES*, ARE BIGGER, TOO.

ARE YOU *MOCKING* US, TIN MAN?

NO. JUST *TARGETING*.

HERE'S THE *DEAL* WITH THE *DAREDEVIL* -- SET HIM *LOOSE* NOW, AND I'LL ONLY *BLOW* YOU *AWAY* TO *KINGDOM COME*!

OH MY! THE BIG *BAD* ROBOT FRIGHTENED US, YES HE DID!

HYPERSENSES RAGE, *REBELLING* AGAINST *OTHERWORLDLY* TEXTURE AND SCENT.

DAREDEVIL FOCUSES *PAST* *SENSORY* *REVELATION*, WAITING FOR THE *STROBE* OF *MOTION* TO SIGNAL AN *OPENING*.

LISTEN UP, "*GIGANTOR*"! HERE'S THE WAY WE SAY IT'S GOING DOWN--

WRRUUK

EXTRATERRESTRIAL FLESH
WARPS AND TWISTS TO
DISLodge THE CLUB.

MAN-MADE MUSCLES
FLEX UP AND BACK,
DAREDEVIL'S LEGS
LOCKING BEHIND
VENOM'S--

SNRAAK

TELL
IT TO
SOMEONE
WHO
CARES!

SEE WHAT
GOOD GYM
CLASSE DOES YOU
WHEN WE EAT
YOUR BRAIN!

--AND LEAVING
THE "LETHAL
PROTECTOR" WITH
NO DEFENSE.

SOMEBODY
MUST'VE BEAT
YOU TO IT... NO
OTHER REASON
I'D BE HERE
DOING THIS!

CLEAR,
SIEGE--

--TAKE
HIM
DOWN!

PICK THIS OUT
FROM BETWEEN
YOUR TEETH,
VENOM!

BRAKAKOOM

WANNA PLAY
WITH FIREPOWER,
TIN-SOLDIER?

CAREFUL,
NOW...

KRKNCH

...WE WOULDN'T
WANT TO
SEE YOU GET
BURNED...

SHRAANK

NATURAL GAS HAS NO ODOR.
IT'S WHAT BROOKLYN UNION GAS
MIXES IN THAT GIVES IT A
SMELL: MERCAPTAN
BASE COMPOUND --

-- MORE
COMMONLY
KNOWN AS
SKUNK OIL.

HRSSS

THE ELECTRIC
COMPANY'S CABLES
RUN RIGHT ALONGSIDE
THE GAS LINES. HE'S
TORN OUT -- GET OUT
OF HERE!

KLAACK

HRSSS


IS THIS
YOUR IDEA --
OF FAIR
TREATMENT?

ENHANCED
SENSES
FOLLOW
THE BALLOONING
STENCH
AND HISS.

HANDS MOVE
QUICKLY
SWITCHING
A TOOL FOR
BATTLE WITH
A MEANS
OF ESCAPE.

THWIT

THE NAME'S
"SIEGE."
NOT "RETREAT!"
I NEVER GIVE
GROUND!



MAYBE THIS
WILL CHANGE
YOUR MIND
SIEGE!

IT'S CERTAINLY
NOT GOING TO
WIN US ANY
FANS AT CON-
ED...

CRASH

THEN AGAIN
"RETREAT'S" GOT
A NICE RING
TO IT.

KRAKOOOM

BISENTO--
URRRK!

BE
GOOD TO
US, WE'LL
BE GOOD TO
YOU!

BUT **KEEP US**
WAITING ON WHAT
WE NEED TO KNOW,
AND WE'LL **DROP** YOU
OFF THE **CHRYSLER**
BUILDING-- ONE
PIECE AT A TIME!

SLKRAASH

I WANTED--
I JUST WANTED
A **CHANCE** TO
DO SOME
GOOD--

HOOKING UP
WITH YOU SURE
SOUNDED LIKE
THE WAY TO GO...
YOU GOT A REAL
UNDERHANDED
WAY WITH WORDS,
DAREDEVIL!

EVER THINK
OF BECOMING
A **LAWYER?**

AND
GIVE UP ALL
THIS?

NO--WE'RE **NOT**
GOING TO **WASTE**
OUR TIME IN SOME
KNOCK-DOWN
DRAW-OUT!

THE **VIRUS**--
EVERYBODY WANTS
IT FOR SOMETHING!
NOBODY'S
HAPPY WITH WHAT
THEY ARE--

-- THE **SNAKEROOT**,
VENOM, SOME
BOOGYMAN NAMED
HELL-SPAWN, EVEN
YOU FOR ALL I KNOW!

WELL, ONE THING'S
NOT GOING TO
CHANGE-- THIS CITY'S
NOT TURNING INTO A
SHOOTING GALLERY,
NOT WHILE
I'M AROUND!

I'LL GET
MY SYSTEM
TO **PROGRAM** A
SEARCH PATTERN--
TRY, ANYWAY! WE'RE
CORING THIS
BIG APPLE TO
FIND THAT
HARDCASE!

THERE'S
MORE THAN
ONE WAY TO
STAGE A
SHOWDOWN...

THE OFFICES OF
THE BIG APPLE
ADVOCATE.

THE BOTTOM OF
THE BARREL IN SMALL
PRESS NEWSPAPERS.

DON'T GET
US WRONG, SARA...
WE APPRECIATE
YOU COMING TO
US WITH
THIS STORY.

UNDERSTAND
WE HAVE TO BE...
CAUTIOUS...
WITH SUCH
POTENTIALLY
EXPLOSIVE
MATERIAL!

ADVOCATE

LOU, C'MON--
ALL WE HAVE
TO BE IS READY TO
SELL OUT OF
EVERY EDITION
WE CAN PRINT!

THAT HEADLINE--
"MATT MURDOCK IS
DAREDEVIL!" EXPOSING
A SUPER HERO'S IDENTITY...
THAT PUTS THIS PAPER
ON THE MAP.

MORE IMPORTANTLY,
STEVEY, IT'D PUT
US IN THE BLACK,
BUT AS TEMPTING
AS THAT IS...

... I'M NOT
COMFORTABLE
THAT WE'VE
COVERED OUR
BACKSIDES!

LOOK, I'D LIKE
TO HAVE MORE, UH,
"HARD FACTS" IN
MY FILES...

"YOUR" FILES,
LITTLE GIRL...S FUNNY.
SOME A' THOSE
NOTES LOOK A LOT
LIKE ANOTHER
REPORTER'S
HANDWRITING--
BEN URICH.

WORKS AT
THE BUZZLE. YOU
INTERNEED THERE,
DIN'TCHA?

FROM A LEGAL
STANDPOINT, WE
CAN'T COMMIT
TO MAKING THAT
KIND OF
DECLARATIVE
STATEMENT
WITHOUT BEING
ONE HUNDRED
PERCENT
SURE!

LOOK, I'M
NOT LOSING
MY BYLINE JUST
BECAUSE I'M
MISSING SOME
PAPERWORK!

LOU? LOU,
WHATTA YA SAY?
I'M ONE HUNDRED
PERCENT SURE--
ONE HUNDRED
PERCENT SURE WE
CAN WRITE OUR
OWN TICKET WHEN
THIS HITS
THE STANDS!

I DON'T KNOW,
STEVEY. I'M SORRY,
SARA... I JUST DON'T
SEE HOW WE CAN
SAY THIS IN PRINT
WHEN THERE ARE
STILL QUESTIONS.

I DO.

DEVIL?
SKRIIK

MATT MURDOCK
IS
DAREDEVIL?

WHEN'S
THE SOONEST
WE CAN GO
ON PRESS?

SIXTH AVENUE AND EIGHTH STREET OUTSIDE THE BARNES & NOBLE.

STOP THE HATE

PORNOGRAPHY IS WOMAN-HATE! DON'T LET IT INFECT OUR LIVES!

AGAINST WOMEN

WHAT ABOUT FREE SPEECH?

DON'T PUBLISHERS OR FILMMAKERS HAVE AS MUCH RIGHT TO PRINT OR MAKE WHAT THEY WANT AS YOU DO TO PROTEST AGAINST IT?

NO! WHAT IF THERE WERE SPECIAL MAGAZINES OR MOVIES WHERE WHITES BEAT BLACKS, OR CHRISTIANS BEAT JEWS?

BUT IF IT'S CALLED PORN AND WOMEN ARE VICTIMS, THEN YOU'RE SEEN AS A PRUDE OR REACTIONARY TO OBJECT!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M SAYING...

DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH, JILLIAN! FOGGY'S A LAWYER-- HE'S PAID BY THE HOUR TO RUN OFF AT THE MOUTH!

I'LL GET YOU A SODA TO HELP COOL OFF!

THESE PICTURES-- THIS BROCHURE-- UGH! IT'S DISGUSTING, KAREN!

WHAT'S THE DEAL, SHYSTER? YOU DIDN'T COME DOWN HERE TO DEBATE THE LEGAL ISSUES OF OUR CAMPAIGN, DID YOU?

TWO, THANKS!

DIET? I WAS HOPING FOR A "YOO-HOO!"

...HE'S BEEN, I DON'T KNOW, NEGLECTING THE OFFICE--

--AND I'M THINKING IT'S SOMETHING... PERSONAL... THAT'S TAKING HIM AWAY!

UH-UH. NOT ME, FOGGY. I STEER CLEAR OF TOO MUCH PERSONAL STUFF WITH MATT. THINGS... THEY CAN GET...

EXACTLY! SOFT FOCUS BIMBOS, IN "IDLERICH BOY" ARE ONLY THE TIP OF THE DEGRADATION ICEBERG.

SHOULD'VE HAD YOUR LAST "YOO HOO" TWO BELT NOTCHES BACK.

NOW GIVE.

WELL, KAREN... IT'S ABOUT MATT...

IT STILL HURTS SOMETIMES FROM WHAT WE HAD.

BUT WHAT YOU HAD MEANS YOU MIGHT BE MORE FAMILIAR WITH OTHER ACTIVITIES-- MATT MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN.

IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT'S PULLING HIM AWAY, EASIER THAN ME BRINGING IT UP, ANYWAY.

I DON'T KNOW, FOGGY... IT OPENS A LOT OF DOORS, IT--

--THAT'S NOT LIKE HIM TO SHIRK-- IT MUST BE A REAL NIGHTMARE THAT'S--

I'LL... I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO... FOR MATT...

12th AVENUE & WEST 46th, THE USS INTREPID
SEA-AIR-SPACE MUSEUM--

-- NEARBY THE NIÑA, PINTA AND
SANTA MARÍA REPLICAS BUILT TO
COMMEMORATE COLUMBUS'S
JOURNEY TO THE NEW WORLD.

ONE AGE OF
CONQUERORS
SUPPLANTS
ANOTHER.

VENOM'S SCENT...
THERE'S *NOTHING*
ELSE LIKE IT ON
THE *PLANET*. YOU
CAN'T MISS IT.

I'LL TAKE YOUR WORD.
THEY LEFT THE SMELLER
OUTTA THIS CAN-- I GET AN
"OLFACTORY ANALYSIS"
GRAPH INSTEAD! LOTTA FUN!

GIVE US
THE TRAMP
PASSIM, AND
WE'LL GIVE
YOU YOUR
FREEDOM!

OR MAYBE
YOU *LIKE*
OUR *TOUCH*...
MAYBE YOU'D
LIKE IT FEELING
ITS WAY *UNDER*
YOUR *SKIN* AND
MUSCLE TO
CRUSH YOUR
HEART!

WE NEED A
DISTRACTION.

TACSYS ENGAGE

I GOT JUST
THE *THING*...

HOLOTRACON

NO! YOU WOULD
USE HIM ONLY
AS THE SNAKEROOT
PLANS -- TO FIND
THE *VIRUS* AND USE
IT ONLY FOR YOUR
OWN ENDS!

OUR OWN ENDS!
OURS! WE WILL
NOT BE REDUCED
TO SOME PATHETIC
INDIVIDUAL!

OH, VENOM...
YEAH, ALL
TWO'A YOU--

WHAT'S--?!



-- YOUR SHIP
JUST
CAME IN!

HEH-HEH!...
ALWAYS
WANTED TO
SAY THAT,
TOO!

THE IMPACT IGNITES
LINGERING FUMES
IN THE BLACKBIRD
JET'S FUEL TANK--

-- AS WELL AS INFLAMING
THE LETHAL PROTECTOR'S
NEVER-TOO-COOL TEMPER.

THE WAR
GAME ROBOT!
COME DOWN AND
LET US SHOW YOU
HOW WE USED TO
PLAY WITH TOY
SOLDIERS!

BUY A BAG
OF PLASTIC
ONES FOR A BUCK
TWENTY-NINE
ON A SUNNY
AFTERNOON--

BRAKOOM

-- AND MELT
THEM DOWN
UNDER A
MAGNIFYING
GLASS!

THEY DIDN'T
SCREAM MUCH--
EXCEPT MAYBE
IN OUR HEAD--
BUT YOU WILL,
SIEGE! SCREAM
LOUD
AND LONG!

WHAT NOW,
LITTLENINJA?
LITTLE
"BENEDICT
ARNOLD" FIND
SOME
BACKBONE?

WORRY
ABOUT
YOUR OWN
ANATOMY,
VENOM...

N-NO...

... THE HAMSTRING,
FOR EXAMPLE.

THWIP

WE'RE GOING
TO TEAR
OUT YOUR--

THAT
HANGING
THING YOU'VE
GOT GOING--

YOU CAN'T
TRIP US UP
SO EASILY,
DAREDEVIL!

SO IT
SEEMS.

-- LOOKS
GREAT --

-- VERY
MENACING --



NOT THAT HE HAS TO WHEN I CAN TOAST YOU DOWN THE LENGTH OF THE LIGHT DECK!

GUESS AGAIN, SMILEY... YOU'RE BETWEEN THE PAREDEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE PLASMA CANNON!

STAND DOWN, SIEGE.

THWIP

THWIP

THWIP

THAT'S THE PLAN, IS IT? KEEP US OCCUPIED WHILE YOU GRAB THE PRIZE FOR YOURSELVES! NO, NO, NO, NOT GOING TO HAPPEN!

WHAT?!!

YOU HEARD ME. WE'RE GOING TO TALK THIS OUT.

I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF CON YOU'RE TRYING TO PULL...

A DEMONSTRATION, VENOM. TO SHOW YOU WE CAN DANCE AROUND EACH OTHER ALL NIGHT.

BUT IT'S MORE IMPORTANT YOU-- BOTH OF YOU-- REALIZE THE TERRIBLE MISTAKE YOU'D BE MAKING USING THAT VIRUS!

IT'S ONLY IN OVERCOMING ONE'S HANDICAPS THAT TRUE HEROISM IS BORN.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "MISTAKE"?

ERASE YOUR "SENSITIVITY" TO FIRE AND SOUND AND YOU HAVE NOTHING MORE TO TRIUMPH OVER...

... AND YOU LOSE THE **EDGE** THAT MAKES YOU A **BETTER HERO** THAN SAY **SPIDER-MAN!**

YOU'RE--
YOU'RE **MESSING** WITH MY--WITH OUR--**HEAD!**

AM I?
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS.

"ONLY IN OVERCOMING ONE'S HANDICAPS THAT TRUE **HEROISM** IS BORN..."--
OH, YOU **ARE GOOD**, **HORNHEAD!**

I'VE GOT TO BE...
VENOM REPRESENTS ALL THE **UNPREDICTABLE DANGER** THIS VIRUS CONTINUES TO **THREATEN!**

I'M **NOT** GOING TO LET THAT KIND OF **SELF-CENTERED MENACE** TAKE **CONTROL**...OR **HELP ADD TO IT!**
THE **SNAKEROOT**, **BISENTO**...AND **EDDIE PASSIM**.

YOU'VE MADE **GOOD** ON YOUR **WORD**, **DAREDEVIL**, AND I SHALL MAKE **GOOD** ON MINE! TO MAKE **AMENDS**...AND **TELL ALL!**

WE ARE BETTER!

TAKE HIM--AND THE DAMNABLE VIRUS!

WE'RE **GOING HOME** TO **SAN FRANCISCO!**

THEY MAKE THEIR **BASE** AT **BELVEDERE CASTLE**, WHERE **ERYNYS** GROWS **STRONG**...

...AND THE **ESSENCE** THAT **ANIMATES** HER IS THAT OF YOUR **DEAD LOVER**, THE **ASSASSIN ELEKTRA!**

THAT--
THAT CAN'T
BE! ELEKTRA--
SHE'S--

GAARRK

YOUR TALK
OF "REFORM"
SICKENS ME,
SNAKEROOT.

THERE'S
ONLY ONE
REDEMPTION
FOR YOUR
KIND!

RADAR REFLECTS BACK
THE WEAPON BURIED DEEP
IN BISENTO'S BACK.

A REMINDER
OF SOMEONE
LONG GONE...

...INSPIRING A WHITE-
HOT FLASH OF RASH AND
IMPOSSIBLE HOPE.

ANOTHER
SAI-- LIKE
SHE ALWAYS
CARRIED!

LIKE
ELEKTRA...

LOOK
WHAT WE
GOT
HERE...

IT'S
YOU...

THE CATACOMBS BENEATH
CENTRAL PARK'S
BELVEDERE CASTLE.

WITH THE WICKEDNESS
THAT IS THE SNAKEROOT.

IT WOULD BE SO MUCH
EASIER FOR YOU, EDDIE, IF
YOU COULD JUST
REMEMBER WHERE YOU
DROPPED THE GLOBE
WITH THE VIRUS...

... WHEN YOU BUNGLED
THE TEST, ALL THOSE
YEARS AGO!

I NEVER CARED
ABOUT YOUR TEST!
I ONLY SIGNED ON
TO THE PROGRAM--
SO'S TO GET CLOSE
ENOUGH TO YOU--

-- AND GET
REVENGE FOR
THERESA!

THERESA... THERESA?
OH! THE ONE WE
CHOPPED UP FOR
RAW MATERIAL IN
"ABOUT FACE!"

WAS THAT
HER NAME?

BUT ONCE YOU GOT CLOSE
TO ME, YOU WERE TOO WEAK
TO DO ANYTHING BUT GO
ALONG! THAT'S BECAUSE I'M
A LEADER, EDDIE!

I'LL LEAD THE WAY TO
THE VIRUS YOU LOST, WHERE
ITS POWER WILL MAKE
THE SNAKEROOT'S PARTIAL
WARRIOR WHOLE...

YOU S.O.B.,
KENKOY!

YOU LOVED
HER, DIDN'T
YOU, EDDIE?

... AND LET ME
CREATE A HEROIN
USER IMMUNE TO
THE DRUG'S
LETHALITY! AN
ESCALATING BASE OF
CASH-CUSTOMERS!

IS HE READY, BUDO?

HE HAS-- KENKOY'S
USING YOU!
HIS OWN PLANS--

DOES IT MATTER,
GENKOTSU?
YOUR TORTURES
UNLOCK THE SECRETS
OF THE RELUCTANT
TONGUE... AND
THE FORGETFUL
BRAIN.

SUCH
DESPERATION.
HOW SAD.

"SAD"
DON'T SAY
THE HALF
OF IT...

NAME'S JOHN GARRETT,
BAD NEWS SHIELD,
CYBORG HARDCASE.
I THINK.

USED TO THINK
I WAS THE PRESIDENT,
TOO, BUT I'M
BETTER NOW.

THE LOOKER CALLS HERSELF
ERYNYS, BUT INSIDE
SHE'S GOT SOMETHIN'
OF A HOT NUMBER I
CALLED ELEKTRA.

ALONG WITH OTHER NAMES
I LEARNED AT THE "REAL
MAN'S HARD CORE REVIEW"
IN JERSEY CITY.

THEY PULLED THAT ELEKTRA
PART OF HER OUTTA MY BRAIN.
SAME GRAY MATTER THAT THOUGHT
I WAS COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

...WHAT A
"LOSER!"

SILENCE,
GARRETT!

YEAH,
OKAY.

BUT I'M BETTER
NOW.

REALLY.

I THINK SHE
WANTS ME.

NEXT:-
MORBIUS:-
DESCENT!